

From: John Robertson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/9/01 10:11pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs,

In my opinion the proposed settlement between the Department of Justice and Microsoft is little more than a slap on the wrist, and a disservice to all of us who work in the computer industry. I believe that the settlement should include nothing short of:

- 1) For a period of 5 years, make available by posting on the Internet current and complete documentation on:
 - a) All file formats for all Microsoft products. No exclusions for any reason (like DMCA, trade secret, patent or copyright law).
 - b) All Microsoft API calls.
 - c) All proprietary Microsoft network protocols, or Microsoft specific extensions to standard network protocols.
- 2) For a period of 7 years, require that Microsoft offer a version of their "Office" product for Linux for the same price as the Windows version. Require that the Linux version have the same, up to date feature set as the Windows version.
- 3) For a period of 5 years, supply a \$250,000/year grant to the Free Software Foundation for the purpose of verifying that Microsoft stays in compliance with the agreement. Charge Microsoft \$1,000,000 per violation.

Please keep in mind that Microsoft has \$30,000,000,000 largely because they have been abusing their monopoly power. They have done this even after agreeing not to do so in a previous anti-trust case. It would be imprudent to assume Microsoft has any ethics.

JDR

--

=====
John D. Robertson, Computer / Engineering Consultant
Robertson & Robertson Consultants, Inc.
3637 West Georgia Rd.
Pelzer, SC 29669

Phone: (864) 243-2436
Fax: (864) 243-3023
Email: john@rrci.com
WWW: <http://www.rrci.com>